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QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD

Letter dated 12 April 2002 from the head of the delegation of Armenia to the fifty-eighth session of the Commission on Human Rights addressed to the Chairperson of the Commission

I would like to refer to the document E/CN.4/2002/156 of 25 March 2002 containing a statement of the Parliament of Azerbaijan.

This statement, circulated under agenda item 9 of the present session of the Commission on Human Rights, amounts to highly irresponsible and unacceptable attempts at the State level to politicize the work of the Commission.

In his letter of 2 April 2002, the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva drew the attention of the Commission to the destructive nature of the State propaganda machinery of Azerbaijan aimed at jeopardizing the genuine mandate of the Commission.

By spreading totally false information and scenarios authorized by governmental agencies and ministries and this time by its legislators, Azerbaijan hinders the proceedings of the annual session of the Commission, demonstrating pitiful efforts to distort the historical progression of events in the region.

This standard product of Azerbaijani propaganda, unmatched in its scope and violence, reflects the attempt of a massive attack to discredit Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh during the Commission's present session. Its cynicism, frightening in its simplicity, is designed to mislead the international community, by means of a senseless provocation.

My delegation considers any comments on the absurd content of the statement of the Azerbaijani Parliament meaningless and counterproductive. It advocates a constructive dialogue with a view to strengthening and implementing the human rights mechanism of the United Nations.

I would be grateful if you could circulate this letter as an official document of the fifty-eighth session of the Commission on Human Rights under agenda item 9.

(Signed) Karen A. NAZARIAN
Head of delegation